

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAVANA 00750 221858Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 AF-10 EUR-12
/111 W

-----088070 230715Z /16

R 211917Z MAR 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1452
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV MILI LE IS CU
SUBJECT: CUBANS CONDEMN ISRAELI INCURSION INTO LEBANON

1. GRANMA, MARCH 20 PUBLISHES DECLARATION BY CUBAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS (MINREX) CONDEMNING ISRAELI INCURSION INTO LEBANON. DECLARATION STATES THAT ISRAELI ACTIONS ARE ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY SUPPORT OF WASHINGTON.

2. COMMENT: UNLIKE PREVIOUS CUBAN DECLARATIONS ON MIDDLE EAST, MINREX CRITIQUE FOLLOWS CLOSELY ON HEELS OF ISRAELI ATTACK. CUBAN RAPIDITY IS NO DOUBT DUE BOTH TO DESIRE TO OFFSET US CRITICISM OF HAVANA'S ETHIOPIAN CAMPAIGN AND URGE TO DEMONSTRATE MOST GRAPHICALLY SUPPORT FOR EMBATTLED PALESTINIANS. SOME ARAB DIPLOMATS HERE AT TIME OF SADAT-BEGIN TALKS SAID THAT CUBANS WERE BECOMING MORE CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH HABBASH-LED PALESTINIAN "REJECTIONIST" ELEMENTS. MORE RECENTLY, HOWEVER, CUBANS HAVE RECEIVED VISIT OF MAINLINE FATAH FUNCTIONARIES AND ARE APPARENTLY SEEKING TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR NON-SECTARIAN APPROACH

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TO PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT. (FYI THERE IS CURRENTLY A CONTEST UNDERWAY IN CUBA TO WRITE THE BEST SONG IN SUPPORT OF "THE STRUGGLE OF THE PALESTINIAN ARAB PEOPLE" END FYI.)
LANE

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Message Attributes

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